

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ANKARA 05943 010858Z

15

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-05 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 /074 W

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R 010735Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 194

INFO "AMEMBASSY ATHENS 4426

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

EUCOM

CINCUSAFE

COMLANDSOUTHEAST

COMSIXATAF

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 5943

HELSINKI FOR PRESIDENT'S PARTY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, TU, GR, US

SUBJD: VIEWS OF SENATOR INAN ON U.S.-TURKEY-GREECE RELATIONS

REF: ANKARA 5191 (NOTAL)

1. TURKISH SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
KAMRAN INAN, WHO RECENTLY RETURNED TO ANKARA FOLLOWING NEARLY
THREE WEEKS OF CONTACTS WITH U.S. CONGRESSMEN AND JOURNALISTS
JUST BEFORE THE JULY 24 VOTE ON THE ARMS EMBARGO, TOOK A VERY
BITTER LINE AGAINST THE U.S. CONGRESS AND GREECE DURING A CALL
BY EMBOFF JULY 31.

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PAGE 02 ANKARA 05943 010858Z

2. SENATOR INAN WAS ESPECIALLY RESENTFUL OF WHAT HE TERMED GREECE'S ROLE IN TURNING THE U.S. CONGRESS AGAINST TURKEY, SAYING THAT IF HE WERE PRIME MINISTER, HE WOULD WITHDRAW TURKEY'S AMBASSADOR FROM ATHENS. AS LONG AS HE HAD ANY INFLUENCE IN TURKEY, HE SAID, HE WOULD CAUTION HIS COUNTRYMEN AGAINST PLACING ANY TRUST IN GREECE.

3. AS FOR THE U.S. CONGRESS, HIS OVERALL IMPRESSION WAS THAT IT WAS POORLY INFORMED, BASICALLY UNFAIR, AND DOMINATED BY ETHNIC GROUPS, AND THEREFORE MADE UNRELIABLE FOREIGN POLICY. CONGRESS HAD DEMONSTRATED THAT IT COULD NOT BE ENTRUSTED WITH THE LEADERSHIP OF NATO, HE SAID, AND IT HAD MADE CLEAR THAT WHATEVER POSITIVE BELIEFS OTHER NATO ALLIES HELD ABOUT ATLANTIC SOLIDARITY, THOSE BELIEFS WERE NOT RPT NOT REFLECTED IN CONGRESS. HE DOUBTED THAT, IF CALLED UPON IN AN EMERGENCY, CONGRESS WOULD APPROVE THE USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS TO DEFEND TURKEY.

4. INAN WAS ALSO RESENTFUL OF THE ATTITUDE OF THE ISRAELI LOBBY WHICH, HE SAID, HAD "PLAYED IT BOTH WAYS" ON THE EMBARGO DECISION.

5. INAN CONCLUDED BY PASSING ON TWO RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE U.S. GOVERNMENT:

A. THE U.S. SHOULD THINK CAREFULLY ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF A GREEK-TURKISH WAR. HE NOTED THAT WHILE MILITARY MATERIAL FOR TURKEY HAD BEEN CUT OFF, GREECE HAD BEEN RECEIVING A CONSIDERABLE VOLUME OF EQUIPMENT. THERE WAS A REAL DANGER, IN HIS VIEW, THAT THE GREEK GOVERNMENT MIGHT ASSUME THAT THE HOUSE ACTION ON ARMS EMBARGO MEANT THAT THE U.S. WOULD BACK GREECE IN A MILITARY SHOWDOWN WITH TURKEY. HE BELIEVED THE U.S. PERHAPS SHOULD CONSIDER CAUTIONING ATHENS AGAINST MAKING ANY SUCH ASSUMPTION.

B. THE U.S. CONGRESS SHOULD PASS A RESOLUTION REAFFIRMING ITS SUPPORT FOR NATO. SUCH A MEASURE WOULD HELP TO ALLAY THE STRONG DOUBTS CREATED BY ITS ARMS EMBARGO AGAINST A NATO MEMBER.

6. SHORTLY AFTER THIS CALL, INAN WAS TO LEAVE FOR ISTANBUL TO REPORT TO PRESIDENT KORUTURK ON HIS MISSION IN WASHINGTON.
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